

**The Times-Dispatch**

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MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1913.

# THE PEOPLE'S TEMPERATURE TAKEN

The most significant political development of the past week was the election of John J. Mitchell, Democrat, as the representative of the Thirtieth Massachusetts District in the House of Representatives. Mitchell ran against Weeks, Republican, in the regular election last fall and was defeated, but, when a vacancy was created by the election of Weeks to the Senate, Mitchell prevailed over his Republican opponent, Cutting, last week by a majority twice as large as that by which Weeks led Mitchell in the first race.

Here the Democratic party achieved a distinct tariff victory in a strict tariff contest. The event is of far-reaching significance, for there are many highly protected industries in Massachusetts vitally affected by the Underwood bill, the particulars of which were before the people of the Thirtieth Massachusetts when they went to the polls. The Republicans saw to that. Senator Weeks, whose popularity in the district which he so long represented is tremendous, taking the tariff as his text, wrote to the voters: "that from the point of view of the welfare of the people of the State, there probably never had been a more important election." His colleague, Senator Lodge, also sent a letter of warning from Washington, naming many industries in the district that were to be "very seriously and, in many cases, I think, disastrously" affected by the Democratic tariff bill.

But the people of the Thirtieth Massachusetts, with protected industries to the right of them, to the left of them, behind them and in front of them, volleys and thundering, refused to be scared. They registered at the polls their conviction that the tariff revision plans of the Democratic party will not work them harm. They said through their votes that if downward revision will at first hurt the few, it will at last benefit the many. The Republican vote decreased about 2,200. That means that some of them voted for the Democratic candidate, and that others stayed at home. It must be concluded that the Republicans there are responding to reform just as are the Republican members of Congress—by not opposing the Democratic program on the ground that the people evidently desire tariff reform. They have decided to put nothing across the Democratic track.

The big chiefs and medicine men of protection are beating the tom-toms and leaping full length in the war dance, but the people are accustomed to cowboy sham-battles and Wild West shows now. "The Underwood bill is to be introduced this very day, and in three weeks it is likely to have in every substantial particular the approval of the House. The President is not scared, the House is not scared and the people are not scared. The public opinion reflected in the Thirtieth Massachusetts is the sign where, under Democracy is to conquer."

**ON BOOK BORROWERS.**  
Frank Monroe Beverly elsewhere expatiates on the evil disposition of the modern book borrower. He writes that there is a practice now in vogue among book borrowers of keeping the books. We admit all of that save the "now." Has there ever been a time that the lent book was not told farewell? We are not sure, but we imagine books was the thought in the mind of the gentle lamb when he divided little men into two groups: the Borrowers and the Lenders. The only consolation is that generally the two tribes coalesce and the Borrower is also a Lender.

Our correspondent gives a few rules that he suggests should be typewritten and pasted in the front of books. They imply that the book is to be returned in two weeks, that it is not to be used for shaving-paper or pipe-spills, and that it is not to be handed on to the third and fourth generation of greedy readers. This is a nice theory, and for umbrellas or watches or trousers would meet with prompt approval. Books, however, are sui generis. They are common property by the laws of a society wistful for knowledge. It seems to us that it is an insult, not to the borrower, but to the author, of a book to paste a sign of ownership on its leaves. The man who wrote the book gave it to the world. There can be no trespass in this case any more than there could be in air for breathing.

If a right rule for books be sought, let us take Mr. Beverly's Rule 3, and cut out the negative. Make it read: "Re-loan this book under any circumstances." The only evil that can really befall a book is stagnation. The only good book is the read book. If more readers come from lending, they lend and keep on lending. About twenty books ought to belong to every man. They should never be lent for they must be companions of all our hours.

Moreover, the other man should have them, too, and not depend upon borrowing. All other books should be regarded as missionaries to be sent to the heathen. The only reason a man should want a lent book back is that he might lend it again. If some one else takes that responsibility from him he should be grateful, not grouchy.

What Mr. Beverly needs is enlarged ownership in the spirit of books, and not in the physical shells. He ought to get into the borrowing class right away. The process is so beautifully social. It is absolutely just. The more books you lend the more you can borrow and the more charitable and nobly becomes the whole world. Nobody suffers loss, and the whole race gains. The rule for a wise man's bookplate is the one called Golden.

## TAKE THE BIG VIEW.

Richmond ought to mark this day in red. It will see the first practical step toward a larger and finer city when the Committee on Annexation, with the City Engineer, makes its first exploring trip into the environs. We are glad to see the committee begin to get busy. It is bad enough for good things to be delayed by strong opposition. It is criminal to let a project against which there is no opposition hang fire. Everybody favors extending the lines. Let us stop talking for annexation, and begin to talk about annexation.

The Times-Dispatch advances one main plea. Take the big view of annexation. Get away from the petty and small doubtful attitude. Begin to have faith in Richmond and plan and work for a metropolis. Throw the city limits so far out that it will look like the annexation of Henrico and Chesterfield and Hanover. Make plans that will produce in Norfolk and Atlanta and Nashville and Charleston outbursts of ridicule and derision. Let 'em accuse us of padding our population figures and getting top-heavy and all the other things that envy holds against growing cities. Then we can go ahead and turn the joke by making good. It is a heap easier to grow and fill up a big idea than it is to grow with a small ideal.

If we have learned one thing from the enthusiasm of the educational conference, it is that the future of the South cannot be painted in too glowing colors. Magnificent success is assured by natural advantages. As these broad visions are realized, Richmond will want plenty of room to get her share of growth. We will be a great city, because we are in the center of a great country. We cannot afford to let the country seize upon a larger idea of the future than we have. We must be ahead of the procession and prepare to reap the benefits of the progress in Virginia and the South.

We trust the committee will not take too microscopic a view of annexation. It should investigate the conditions, but it should also cut out bartering and hagglings and corner-cutting. Lesser claims must be subordinate to the larger good. The best method of annexation would be to take a map of the region and a pair of compasses with the point fixed in Capitol Square and circumscribe a circle averaging two miles beyond the present corporate limits. Call that Greater Richmond. All the incidents and details will be taken care of in time. Success and prosperity will fill in the gaps. That is our conception of the big way of planning a big future.

## THE COMPOSITION OF RICHMOND'S POPULATION.

A bulletin containing data concerning the composition of the population of Richmond in 1910 supplies some information as to the numerical standing of the foreign-born whites, native whites of foreign or mixed parentage, whites of foreign or mixed parentage, native-born whites and negroes here. Although there are 7,664 persons in Richmond of foreign or mixed parentage, there are but 4,684 foreign-born. The Germans top the list with 891, followed by the Russians, 827, and the Italians, 511. England ranks fourth, with 472; Ireland is next, with 405, and next is Scotland, with 179. Turkey in Asia succeeds, with 142, and then come 118 Austrians, 116 Canadians, 99 Greeks, 54 Frenchmen, 33 persons from Turkey in Asia, 33 Hungarians, 31 Swedes and 16 Chinese and Indians. From other foreign countries unclassified there are 175 persons. On the other hand, there are in Richmond 69,150 native whites of native parentage and 46,773 negroes.

## THE PEANUT IN THE FATHERLAND.

Eastern Virginia farmers may enlarge the sales of their imperial product, the peanut, if they choose to invade the imperial domain of the Kaiser. Hermann L. Spahr, of Breslau, reports that the toothsome prolate prole might become very popular with the Germans, who are not yet familiar with either the nut or the many delicious edibles into which it can be so easily converted. Peanuts are sold in Breslau, but, as the dealer has no knowledge of how parched peanuts should taste, they are sold in an imperfectly roasted state, and do not achieve the popularity that might ensue if roasters were installed and the nuts sold hot from the machine. What a joy the German child misses! The oil extracted from peanuts is employed in the manufacture of various kinds of margarine, but peanut butter is "entirely unknown." It is thought by the good consul that because of the general ignorance as to the wonderful flavor of the peanut, "the development of the public's taste for the butter would be slow," but it surely would not be so if the Department of Commerce would send over to the Fatherland a dozen oil negro vendors extraordinary and plentifully to every their "let 'em have 'em hot!" Strange to say, the use of jams and marmalades is increasing among the richer classes of the Germans, and

they can now be had at any delicatessen store. Anchovy and sardine butter is sold in tubes like tooth paste and "is in much demand for afternoon teas." Who would have thought that the Germans drank tea? Peanut butter "would be a welcome variation for some tables," we are told.

Here is an opportunity for the Minister of Commerce of Germany and the ministers of commerce of Nansemond and other counties to get together.

## MAKING MUSIC HUMAN.

The twentieth festival of the Wednesday Club promises to surpass any previous effort to give Richmond and the surrounding country two days of supreme music. The stars announced are as good as this country affords. The chorus will better its past achievements in singing "Aida," that colorful and majestic triumph of Italian musical imagination, Sturani and the orchestra from the Metropolitan Opera House will weave the harmonic background of instrumentation against which the glories of individual performance will be flung. Best of all, as last year, Richmond will have the opportunity to welcome an artist who was once "home talent." Miss Betty Booker will come back to delight her friends as she has both critics and musicians on the Continent.

Yet, after all, the splendor and excellence of this festival, will miss the ideal of the true music-lover if it fails to give simple human pleasure to thousands of people and leave an enduring effect upon our esthetic life. We have heard rumors that the Spring Festival is becoming too much a society affair. The music is less important than the chance for fine clothes and social display. People go because it is the thing to do, not for the joy of hearing fine music. It is too expensive, ornate, complex, to do its full service of education.

We do not believe this is true, yet we do believe that the aim of this club should be to spread musical culture and not establish a fad. It should be the supreme musical event of the year, and set the standard of excellence toward which all our other endeavors may be directed. We need great singers and a noble orchestra, not because they come from New York and draw imposing salaries, and wear beautiful gowns, but because from them, at least once a year, we may hear the very best of music. Art means an endeavor for perfection. Unless some ideal of perfection is presented, we cannot appreciate the gifts of art.

The two days of pleasure are not the chief blessings of the music festival. The lasting lessons of what good music is and what it may mean in spiritual pleasure are the true benefits for the people. If from this example our own musicians are inspired to better work, our own people taught what to demand, and our own composers stimulated to sincere labor in their field, then, and only then, will the Wednesday Club render its highest service.

## OPEN THE DOOR.

Secrecy in party councils on matters of legislation and policy should cease. In adopting the open caucus, the Republicans of the House have seized an opportunity which the Democrats let pass. The course of the minority is commendable because it recognizes and embraces that full publicity as to public affairs which should be a Democratic doctrine.

Whether they desire to do so or not, sooner or later the Democrats will have to open the door and pull up the shades. It is more incumbent upon the majority in control to do it than it is upon the minority. The secret caucus is doomed. The principle should be carried further. There should be no executive sessions of committees in any legislative body in the United States unless absolutely justified on grounds of public policy. The Congress of the United States should establish a wise example by ordering that its committees shall have no such sessions save under the exception above stated. The executive session is a prolific parent of legislative inconsistency. It permits the legislator who has sought in committee in every possible way to postpone, unfavorably report or kill by refusing to take up a bill to advocate and assist the measure when it is reported to and considered by the main body.

Publicity as to the public business is one of the strongest needs, and one of the greatest demands of the American people to-day.

That aviator who flew 245 miles over England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany all in one day has what we should call a cosmopolitan viewpoint.

The 5,000 voters who have pledged themselves to qualify can now get to work finding out what they must vote for. Nobody else can do that for them.

Japan seems to think the United States would make a nice annex.

We trust the union between the Administrative Board and the City Engineer will be cemented thoroughly, whether in barrels or bags.

"Half the great poets were insane or crazy," says Dr. Mott, who has charge of 26,000 lunatics in London hospitals. But what about the other half?

If Secretary of the Navy Daniels keeps on abolishing, he may soon abolish the sea serpent.

In New York you can get a 1-cent three-course dinner, consisting of a frankfurter, a roll and sauerkraut, with lemonade, but only a New Yorker could eat that and get away with it.

Senatorial courtesy has taken on a pink tinge since Senator J. Ham Lewis, of Illinois, has been sworn in.

## On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

**The Cost of Living.**  
Says old man Haskins of our town: "The cost of livin' ain't goin' down. Although the folks may holler and tell, 'They've been hollerin' the same for a while and a day.'"  
I remember 'way back in '84 The folks was madder'n ever before. When they noticed first the increased expense, And they have been hollerin' ever since. They holler till they're sick and sore and lame, But they keep on payin' just the same.

Although they threaten and wail and shout, There ain't one thing they will do with-out. For every family in this broad land Is as good as the next one, understand? They caterwaul and they wipe their eyes, But they don't seem willing to economize. When one feller gets some jimerack new, The next feller's got to have one, too. They all keep diggin' down in their pants. And tryin' to live beyond their means. If this goes on to the end of time, The cost of livin' is going to climb. For when you put on new-fangled frills, You surely have got to pay the bill.

## From the Hickeyville Clarion.

Deacon Stubbs's mule, Hyacinth, has been makin' the all-furthest racket lately, hee-hawin' all night, and the Common Council took action, declaring Hyacinth a public nuisance and instructin' Constable Ezra Hand if he tied the mule's tail down firm to her hind leg she couldn't holler, and Ez got a piece of rope and went to tie the mule's tail to her hind leg. When he got there the mule's tail was stickin' right up in the air and she hollerin' like a Comanche Indian. Ez grabbed ahold of her tail and tried to pull it down, but by golly, he couldn't budge it no more than he could pull over the Washington Monument. While he was pulling away Hyacinth let loose her off hind leg and landed Ez through the side of the barn. Deacon Stubbs now threatens to law the township for destroyin' his property. Ez finally stood off twenty feet and made a lasso out'n the rope and lassoed the tail. He then put a pulley in the floor, and with the aid of three members of the Common Council and two or three bystanders he managed to pull the tail down and get a half hitch around Hyacinth's hind leg and there ain't been a holler out'n that mule since, and there is some peace in this neighborhood. Ez says anybody that wants his sinucure as constable kin have it by paying him the price of his star.

Erastus Peters of this village, writes home that he is making a great success in a show called "Vaudeville." He is a juggler and by juggling his salary with considerable eclat and perseverance, he is almost able to keep up with the high cost of living, especially in view of the fact that he is invited out to eat quite often.

Len Higgins is thinking some of soundin' his daughter to a finishing school, but Ame Hilliker advises him not to. Ame says when he sent his daughter to a finishing school it was his finish and not his daughter's.

There is nothing that grows old-fashioned quicker in an estimate unless it is a silk hat or a woman's skirt.

## Caught on the Fly.

New York paper is trying to find out who woman is who married Oscar Hammerstein. The woman, no doubt, is Mrs. Hammerstein.

King Alfonso, according to the papers, is gaining in popularity. Nobody needs it more.

A Pullman porter killed a train robber out West. Jealousy is a dangerous thing.

## Voice of the People

### Admonition to Book Borrowers.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—The writer wishes to enter a protest against the practice now in vogue among book borrowers. Let it be distinctly understood, though, that he would not have the door closed against those who borrow books with an understanding of the obligation under which they place themselves. The fact is, the writer sometimes borrows books himself, but always with the implied agreement to take special care of them, and to make returns before the lender gets out of patience. The usual fault with the borrower is that he keeps books indefinitely, unless returning reminders of this nature is by no means a pleasing task. The average borrower of books does not feel—if his actions signify—that he is morally and legally bound to take care of them, and to make returns within a reasonable time. The writer knows of books that were loaned twenty years ago, and are still out. Of course, no returns will ever be made of such out-of-date borrowings, but the writer would have no objection to the lender's peaceable possession of the books, with the right of ownership (he thinks).

There should be a clear understanding on the part of the borrower as to the care and return of books. Such an understanding would become an implied agreement on his part, and any violation of this agreement should be held as a score against him when he calls again. It would be well to have printed or typewritten slips setting forth what would be expected of the borrower, and have them pasted on the inside of the front covers of books.

## Abe Martin

Our conservative and stay-at-home Virginians don't realize how land values have shifted and grown in Virginia in a few decades. In George Washington's time 90 per cent of the taxable values were in the country and only 10 per cent in the cities. Now to-day we have 90 per cent of the taxable values in the cities and only 10 per cent in the country, and Richmond pays more than all the rest of the State.

Not realizing this, the average farmer (2) is alarmed when he reads the paper of the new tax reform plan to put up all tax assessments on land to its real value.

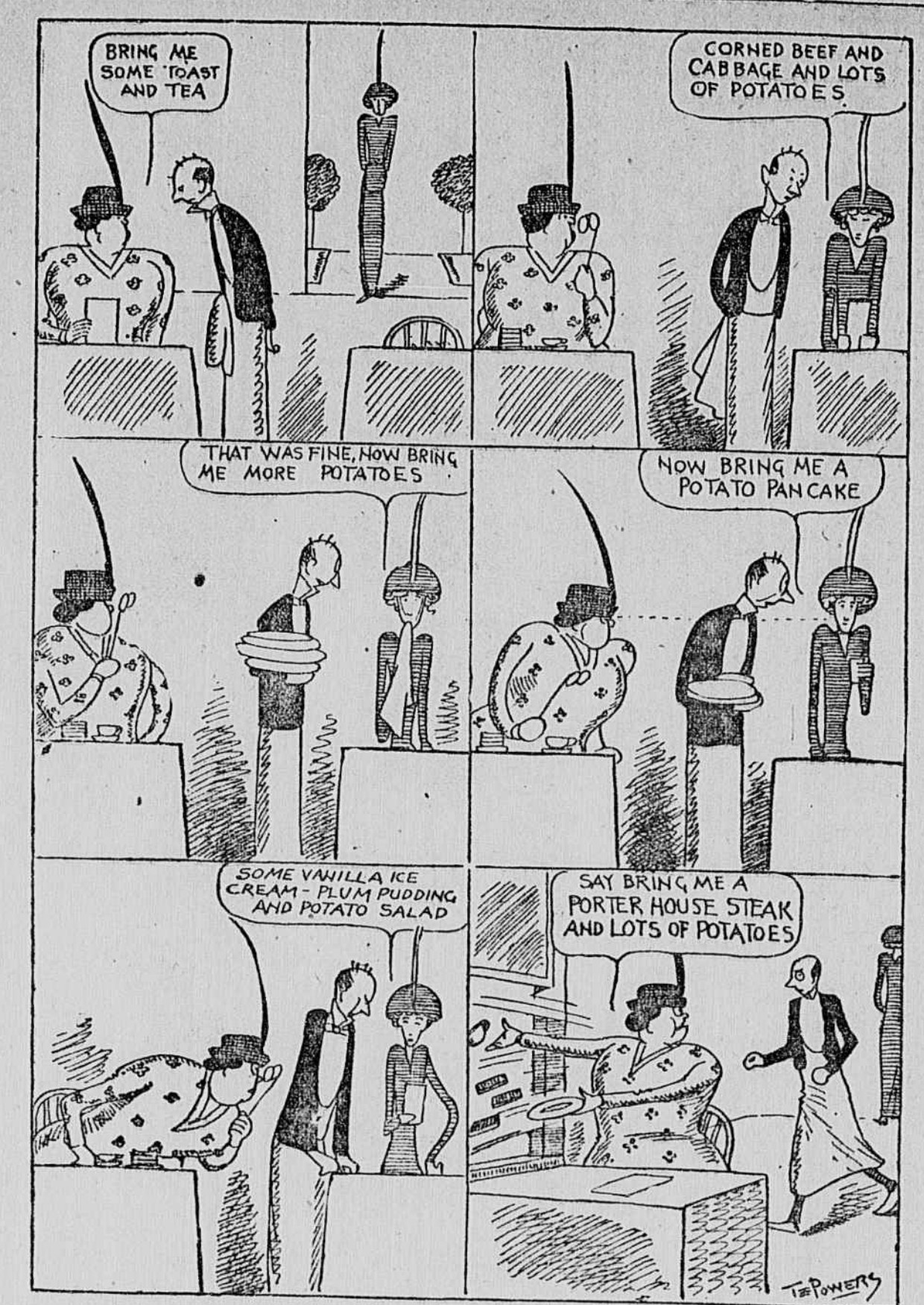
The tax reformers are after taxing "land values," not land acres. There is a vast difference. The real farmer who is making his land produce to the maximum, will be greatly benefited by the tax reform. It will hit the one who just holds on to his land and lets the community increase in value.

It also may hit a few who are the fortunate owners of title to exceptional values in the social radius of the city.

The loss a feller amounts to 't better he sticks up on the hill. This is a funny old world, for sometimes find a feller that's actually huntin' his relatives.

# GETTING A PERFECT LADY'S GOAT

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Below is a form suggested, being that which the writer uses:

Borrowers are expected to observe the following rules:

1. Do not fail to return books within two weeks, without special permission to keep them longer.
2. Do not write on, soil or mark the pages with dog-ears (turned down corners of the leaves).
3. Do not reloan books under any circumstances.
4. If books are lost or damaged perfectly, the borrower must pay for them.

Of course, some would disregard these rules, but the lender should discriminate between borrowers in order to protect himself against the unscrupulous.

Gift books, or those in sets, should never be loaned. No one with the proper conception will ask to borrow such books, since they could not be replaced, if lost or damaged.

ERICK MONTGOMERY BEVERLY.

Freeling, Va.

## Tax According to the Benefits of Government.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir,—Robert Beverly's letter on taxation in Tuesday's paper is very timely. It is a very good idea to "tax according to the ability to pay," and to "distribute the burden proportionately to what one gets out of his business."

Now this theory has been generally accepted by most lawmakers, and it has a very catchy sound, and appeals to most men who have not made a study of the principles of political economy, but in that it is a false principle, reform that is not based on true principles.

To "tax according to the ability to pay" is unjust and inexpedient for several reasons:

First. Much valuable land would pay no tax at all.

Second. It is putting a penalty on thrift and industry to tax according to land values.

Third. It fails to accomplish the altruistic result that is expected in "helping the poor man."

The true principle of raising money for public service, so that the burden and the benefit shall be shared equally by all the people (including the woman) is this: Tax according to the benefits of government.

The benefits of government in political economy, and means to tax according to the ownership of values.

Land is due to the presence of population, and to the fact that land values, as distinguished from improvement value, in plain words, it means to tax only land values and public utilities.

Our conservative and stay-at-home Virginians don't realize how land values have shifted and grown in Virginia in a few decades. In George Washington's time 90 per cent of the taxable values were in the country and only 10 per cent in the cities. Now to-day we have 90 per cent of the taxable values in the cities and only 10 per cent in the country, and Richmond pays more than all the rest of the State.

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THE MARKET-PLACE RICHMOND OF THE SOUTH

ally rich land on the rivers near Richmond and Norfolk. Some of this land is worth \$1,000 per acre, and is assessed for taxes at one-tenth of \$1,000. In Piedmont Virginia are or-shards worth \$1,000 per acre, and in the Southwest are blue-grass and timber worth ten times the tax assessments. A coal mine or water power or suburban city bring bids as assessed by the old rule at a nominal figure.

Why not tax them into use? It is a good idea. It means wages to labor, and a healthy stimulation to production and trade all along the line. It means money for public service in schools and roads.

Charlotteville. "PIEDMONT."

In Memory of the Disaster of April 15, 1912.

With scarce a moment's warning, On a bleak, cold April morning, Sixteen hundred souls were rushed into eternity. Hushed. Was the world as never before, Heart anguish reached from shore to shore!

"Wreck, awful!" from the wireless pour.

"Gone, loved ones, ship, forevermore!" Mrs. Clark's wife, Mrs. Clark, was fairly joined the Murphys, Taggarts, the Sullivans, the Guffeys and the Wall Street Democracy all arrayed themselves under a banner. It was Charles F. Murphy, York's pinely delegate as a unit and gave him the two-thirds majority necessary to the nomination.

Mr. Clark was with very bad company, and for this he has only himself and his campaign managers to blame. Incentively it may be worth Mr. Clark's while to ponder over the fact that his most conspicuous journalistic support has already repudiated the Democratic party in carrying out its pledges to reform the tariff. This little incident in itself may give Mr. Clark a little clearer idea of the character of the forces that were back of him—forces that would have brought about his defeat even if he had been nominated, and that would have wrecked his administration even if by chance he had been elected.

This is all ancient history, but the Speaker should understand that if he has been a victim of injustice it was the injustice that he worked to himself in misunderstanding the temper of the American people and the actor of the issue that presented itself to the Democratic party.

Mr. Clark went over to let the dead past bury its dead. Worse men than he have been nominated for President, and better men have lost the prize when it seemed securely in their grasp, but no man ever profited politically from a feud. Burr ruined his career for the luxury of hating Hamilton. John Randolph's grievance against the Adamses made him a public nuisance. Even Jackson found it necessary to settle his ancient quarrel with Benton, and Jackson's insane animosity toward Clay weakened his administration.

Conkling's feud with Blaine cost Blaine the presidency, and Blaine's feud with Conkling cost Conkling the office. Reed chose to snuff out a brilliant career in childish resentment against McKim's Thoroughbred. Roosevelt has become a diminishing figure in national life ever since he capitalized his popularity to destroy his former friend, Taft.

Revenge, said Bismarck, is a delinquency that should always be eaten cold. Mr. Clark has lost the presidency, but he holds one of the greatest offices known to the American government, and if he uses the influence of that office in all good faith to promote the welfare of the country he may be sure that history will deal kindly and graciously and generously with him. New York World.

THE

National State and City Bank

invites you to open an account, either subject to check or at 3% interest in its Savings Department. .... CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$1,600,000.00

children into the world. I cannot believe the patient, humble little woman we call mother, with her sacrifices, her careful teaching, her modesty, her religious ideas, her gentle touch, her soothing words, her rare judgment could want this thing—could want this bubble of nothingness, which does not elevate, but debase; which does not make brotherhood, but unmake; which blights and burdens and which will make a woman man's playing instead of the goddess he now worships.

Richmond. B. B. ARTHUR.

## Smothering a Feud

Speaker Clark has shown good sense in composing his quarrel with Mr. Bryan. There can be nothing more vain and futile than political feud.

Mr. Clark still complains that it is beneath the power of Mr. Bryan or anybody else to correct the injustice that was done to me at Baltimore. But wherein was Mr. Clark a victim of anybody's injustice? He was expected to start the impeachment and he chose to cast his political lot with the bosses and reactionaries of the Democratic party.

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